

SB 1054 FACT SHEET

Senator Darrell Steinberg (D – 06)
Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grant Program

PROBLEM

In California, 5.7 percent of the population has been diagnosed with a serious mental illness; 18.5 percent of California arraigned defendants have a serious mental illness; and 23 percent of California prison inmates have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness.

California's recidivism rate for inmates is usually around 65-70% over a three year period. The recidivism rate is twice as high for former inmates with serious mental illness.

PURPOSE

SB 1054 re-establishes the Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction (MIOCR) Grant program that supports the implementation and evaluation of locally developed demonstration projects designed to reduce recidivism among persons with mental illness.

This bill requires the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to administer and award the MIOCR Grants on a competitive basis to counties that expand or establish a continuum of swift, certain, and graduated responses to reduce crime and criminal justice costs related to mentally ill offenders.

The BSCC, in consultation with the State Department of Health Care Services, shall create an evaluation design for MIOCR Grants that will assess the effectiveness of the program in reducing crime, the number of early releases due to jail overcrowding, and local criminal justice costs.

SB 1054 allocates \$50 million General Fund for the MIOCR Grants with \$25 million for adult offenders and \$25 million for juvenile offenders.

BACKGROUND

In 1998, the California State Sheriffs' Association and Mental Health Association co-sponsored SB 1485 (Rosenthal), establishing the MIOCR Grant program.

The MIOCR Grant program recognized that cooperation between law enforcement, corrections, mental health and other agencies was critical to improving California's response to mentally ill offenders. Projects were collaborative and addressed locally identified gaps in jail and community-based services for persons with a serious mental illness.

Criteria for the original MIOCR Grants included:

- Percentage of the jail population with severe mental illness;
- Demonstration of ability to administer program, and to provide treatment and stability for persons with severe mental illness;
- Demonstrated history of maximizing federal, state, local, and private funding sources; and
- Likelihood that the program will continue after state funding ends.

SUPPORT

National Alliance on Mental Illness
California Council of Community Mental Health
Agencies
California Mental Health Directors Association
American Association for Marriage and Family
Therapy

OPPOSED

None at this time

